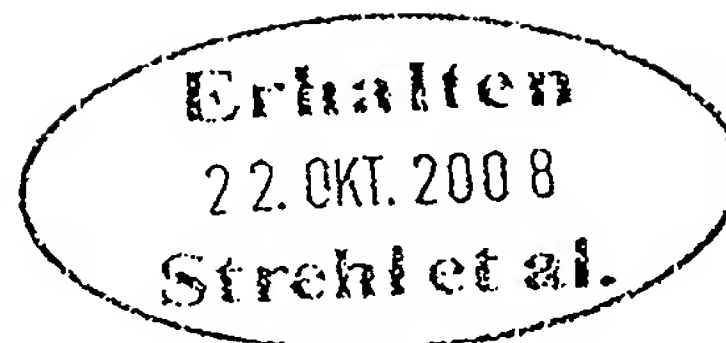


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Date
21.10.08

Reference EPA-41847	Application No./Patent No. 03795425.2 - 2319 / 1543773 PCT/JP0311701
Applicant/Proprietor HITACHI MEDICAL CORPORATION	

### Communication

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the supplementary European search report under Article 153(7) EPC for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

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### Refund of the search fee

If applicable under Article 9 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.

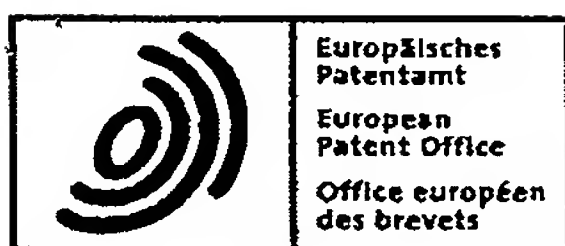


**SUPPLEMENTARY  
EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number  
EP 03 79 5425

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 6 368 277 B1 (MAO ZUHUA [US] ET AL) 9 April 2002 (2002-04-09)  * abstract; figures 1-6 * * column 2, line 29 - column 3, line 33 * * column 4, line 3 - column 6, line 5 * -----	1-10, 13-27, 30,33,34	INV. A61B8/08
X	US 6 193 660 B1 (JACKSON JOHN I [US] ET AL) 27 February 2001 (2001-02-27) * abstract; figures 1,2A-B * * column 1, lines 25-60 * * column 4, line 37 - column 5, line 18 * * column 8, line 49 - column 9, line 4 * -----	1,2	
A	US 5 782 766 A (WENG LEE [US] ET AL) 21 July 1998 (1998-07-21) * abstract; figures 2,4-6 * * column 2, line 48 - column 3, line 36 * * column 5, line 18 - column 6, line 28 * -----	1-34	
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)  A61B
Place of search <b>Munich</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>8 October 2008</b>	Examiner <b>Lahorte, Philippe</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone  Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  A : technological background  O : non-written disclosure  P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention  E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  D : document cited in the application  L : document cited for other reasons  .....  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

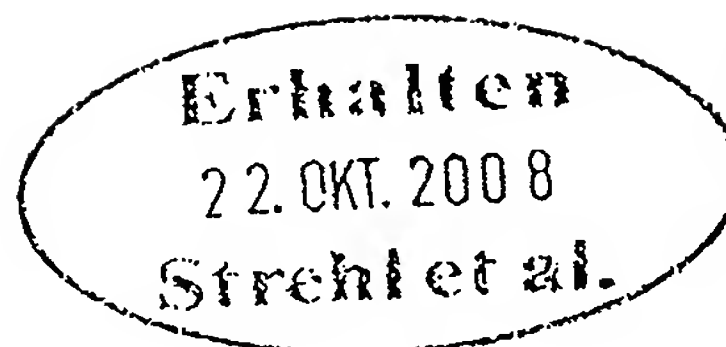
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